

VZCZCXYZ0022
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHSF #0028 0141556
ZNY CCCCC ZZH
R 141556Z JAN 08
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4670

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 000028

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

EUR/NCE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/14/2028
TAGS: [EUN](#) [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [CD](#)
SUBJECT: BULGARIA SHARES CONCERNS ABOUT CHAD AND C.A.R;
HOPEFUL FOR INITIAL DEPLOYMENT EARLY FEB.

REF: A. SECSTATE 03208
[1](#)B. SOFIA 00024

Classified By: Political Counselor James Bigus for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

(C) Ministry of Foreign Affairs State Expert for Bulgarian Participation in CFSP and ESDP, Guergana Karadjova, provided the Bulgarian perspective on the ESDP deployment to Chad and the Northern Central African Republic. Karadjova said that the GOB shares the U.S. assessment on the importance of a timely deployment of the planned ESDP military operation (EUFOR TCHAD/RCA). The Government of Bulgaria (GOB) supported politically the EU decisions on the planning of the operations, including an increase of the initial budget allocation for the related common costs. The GOB offered a contribution of 2 staff officers (in the Operations Headquarters (OHQ) and the Force Headquarters (FHQ)). The Force Generation process is about to come to an end, potentially addressing the main critical shortfalls. According to Karadjova, a decision has been taken and a schedule during January for the presentation of the OPLAN by the OpsCommander and its political endorsement is set-up. This would hopefully allow the initial deployment of EUFOR TCHAD/RCA at the beginning of February 08 and full operational capacity in mid May 08 (before the rainy season).

Karagiannis